



HOME LEARNING POLICY

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Home Learning Policy

What does the research say?

As students mature and develop the study skills necessary to delve deeply into concepts and to retain new learning, they also benefit more from homework. Research shows that homework can have moderate benefits for students (Cooper et al., 2006) but that too much can be detrimental (Fernández-Alonso, Suárez-Álvarez, & Muñiz, 2015). With this in mind, Chatmore only sets homework that will build upon key skills required for their current studies and their futures.

At Chatmore, the purpose of homework is to:

- complement and reinforce classroom learning so that students can work towards mastery of skills or deeper understanding of concepts
- foster good lifelong learning and study habits
- develop self-regulation processes such as goal setting, self-efficacy, self-reflection, and time management
- support partnerships with parents/carers by connecting families with the learning happening at school

We believe the effectiveness of homework is enhanced when:

- it is set at an appropriate level for each student (differentiated)
- it is related to essential learning at school (connected)
- there is choice in tasks provided (self-efficacy)
- it supports students to have a balance of school-related and non-school related activity in their lives (ie., where the amount of homework set provides sufficient additional time for students to engage with family, sport and recreation, cultural pursuits, and employment, where appropriate)
- homework is checked and not graded (with the exception of home learning relating to a completed project or assignment, particularly in Middle & Senior)
- there are structures in place at school to support homework completion including homework club

*It is worth noting that some students take longer to practice and master skills than others, but all practice is helpful.

ALL STUDENTS

- Student Planner - all students are expected to write their home learning in their student planner and have it signed by a parent/carer in accordance with the time frame dictated for each year group.
 - Primary - daily; Middle & Senior - weekly
- Feedback on Homework - all students will be given feedback on homework that speaks to the skills of the task. Not all tasks will receive feedback, i.e., practicing spelling on Spelling Shed or reading.

Primary

In Primary, homework is ordinarily limited to practice of key skills like spelling words and reading and simple maths practice. Students may also use apps to supplement home

learning and skill practice. Students may also be required to complete elements of project work related to their IPC unit.

Homework in Primary should not be arduous and should inspire creativity, discussion and exploration! The best way of learning at this level is to have discussions about learning topics and apply it to real life.

Middle

In Middle School, students' homework will be predominantly used for practice towards mastery of skills, and rehearsal. This is often best achieved with short but frequent practice and should not require the assistance of a teacher or adult. Students will be required to read daily and log it in their Reading Log.

In some circumstances students in the Middle School will work on assignments at home after being given clear instructions and exemplars of what is expected. This may take longer periods over a few days.

It is important that students have the opportunity to get outside, socialise and engage in extracurricular activities.

Seniors

In Seniors, students' homework will more likely be used for revision, assignment completion and tasks designed to work towards mastery of skills. Students should use their time afterschool to consolidate their notes daily and revise key topics.

Students in the senior years are permitted to remain at school after dismissal until 4pm to complete school work independently before going home. Seniors are expected to set their schedules to accommodate for the increase in home learning and the need to review work frequently.

Failure to Complete Homework

If your child fails to complete home learning on a regular basis (i.e. multiple times a week or regularly for one subject), the class teacher will follow-up with the parent/carer to identify the reason why the child is not completing home learning.

At the Middle & Senior level, students may be required to remain indoors at lunch or afterschool to complete home learning. Students at this level are expected to have a level of responsibility over their work and completion of it.